

Policy: Students will meet or exceed district and state standards in *Foundational Skills and Competencies* for:

District Mission: Students who graduate from the Milford Public Schools will demonstrate mastery of reading, writing and numeracy. Students will comprehend, organize and analyze information in order to independently solve problems and articulate solutions. Students will demonstrate the attributes of good citizenship.

- 1.0 **Reading:** *Students develop the proficiency, confidence and fluency in reading needed to meet the literary demands of the 21st century.*
- 1.0.1 Students will read a variety of literary, informational and persuasive texts with understanding and meaningfully analyze, interpret, evaluate and enjoy them;
 - 1.0.2 Students will read to understand, including identifying main and subordinate ideas, details and facts; to interpret; and to respond to a variety of written materials;
 - 1.0.3 Students will read to analyze, including making comparisons, drawing inferences and contrasts, and identifying sequences;
 - 1.0.4 Students will read to evaluate, including separating fact from opinion; recognizing propaganda, stereotypes and statements of bias; recognizing inconsistency; and judging the validity of evidence and sufficiency of support;
 - 1.0.5 Students will use the features and structure of books and other reference materials, such as table of contents, preface, introduction, titles and subtitles, index, glossary, appendix and bibliography; and
 - 1.0.6 Students will improve comprehension by using a variety of strategies, including self-correcting, questioning, predicting, reviewing and reading ahead.'
- 1.1 **Writing:** *Students develop the proficiency, confidence and fluency in writing needed to meet the literacy demands of the 21st century.*
- 1.1.1 Students will produce written materials which develop thoughts, share information, influence and persuade, and create and entertain;
 - 1.1.2 Students will use the conventions of standard English to communicate clearly;
 - 1.1.3 Students will demonstrate the use of elements of effective writing, including setting, purpose, presenting in a logical organization, and elaborating by selecting and using detailed examples, illustrations and evidence;

- 1.1.4 Students will select forms of expression for different audiences, including using appropriate style and voice;
- 1.1.5 Students will improve their own writing, including redrafting, restructuring, revising, correcting errors and editing; and
- 1.1.6 Students will gather information from primary and secondary sources to write reports using that information and the quotes, paraphrases and summaries accurately.

1.2 **Speaking, Listening, and Viewing**: *Students develop the proficiency, confidence and fluency in speaking, listening and viewing needed to meet the literacy demands of the 21st century.*

- 1.2.1 Students will comprehend verbal and nonverbal presentations at the literal, inferential and evaluative levels;
- 1.2.2 Students will listen and view in order to analyze, clarify and establish context;
- 1.2.3 Students will understand spoken instructions, give spoken instructions to others, ask meaningful questions, and answer questions correctly and concisely;
- 1.2.4 Students will speak using appropriate conventions (usage and word choice), forms of expression (style and voice), and tools (technology and media); and
- 1.2.5 Students will deliver oral and visual presentations using a coherent sequence of thought, clarity of presentation, suitable vocabulary and length, and nonverbal communication appropriate for the purpose and audience.

1.3 **Quantifying:** *Students develop the basic computational skills and mathematical techniques essential to understanding the numerical world and solving quantitative problems.*

- 1.3.1 Students will demonstrate number sense by using numbers for counting, measuring, comparing, ordering, scaling, locating and labeling;
- 1.3.2 Students will add, subtract, multiply and divide with whole numbers, fractions, decimals and integers;
- 1.3.3 Students will make estimates and approximations, and judge the reasonableness of results;
- 1.3.4 Students will understand and use ratios, proportions and percents;
- 1.3.5 Students will make and use measurements in both customary and metric units to approximate, measure and compute lengths, areas, volumes, mass, temperatures and time;
- 1.3.6 Students will organize data into tables, charts and graphs, and read, interpret and draw conclusions from the data; and
- 1.3.7 Students will understand and apply basic algebraic and geometric concepts.

1.4 **Problem Solving, Reasoning, and Creative Thinking:** *Students explore information and arguments from various points of view to think critically and creatively and to solve problems*

- 1.4.1 Students will apply prior knowledge, abstract thinking, curiosity, imagination and creativity to solve problems;
- 1.4.2 Students will use inductive reasoning to make, defend and evaluate conjectures and arguments, and deductive reasoning to justify assertions and verify tentative conclusions;
- 1.4.3 Students will use problem-solving skills to formulate problems, identify patterns and trends, and make and justify decisions and predictions;
- 1.4.4 Students will examine, define and redefine ideas and problems from a variety of perspectives;

- 1.4.5 Students will create, imagine and explore new ideas to generate alternative strategies, consider advantages and disadvantages, and select among alternative possibilities;
- 1.4.6 Students will assess the results of selected actions and respond constructively to unanticipated events or outcomes; and apply defensible criteria to make aesthetic and other qualitative judgments
- 1.5 **Learning Resources and Information Technology:** *By the end of Grade 12, students will be independent, competent and confident users of information and technology and able to apply related strategies for acquiring basic skills and content knowledge, communicating ideas, solving problems and pursuing personal interests*
 - 1.5.1 Students will identify and apply a wide range of educational technologies to conduct research, communicate information and ideas, create original works, organize data and solve problems;
 - 1.5.2 Students will use effective and efficient strategies to explore and use an information- and technology-rich environment to gain knowledge, deepen understanding and solve complex problems;
 - 1.5.3 Students will use technology to enhance essential skills and facilitate learning in the content areas; and
 - 1.5.4 Students will apply the skills necessary to locate, evaluate, interpret and synthesize information from print, non-print and electronic sources.
- 1.6 **Working Independently and Collaboratively:** *Students work and learn independently (effectively allocating time, energy and resources) and collaboratively as part of a team (contributing to group efforts and understandings).*
 - 1.6.1 Students will set rigorous, challenging and reasonable learning goals;
 - 1.6.2 Students will set priorities, allocate time and follow schedules to meet objectives;
 - 1.6.3 Students will assess progress and make necessary adjustments to meet goals;
 - 1.6.4 Students will demonstrate friendliness, adaptability, empathy and politeness in group settings;
 - 1.6.5 Students will develop productive and satisfying relationships with others based on mutual respect;

- 1.6.6 Students will employ a variety of strategies for constructively resolving conflicts and participate actively in reaching group decisions and meeting group goals;
- 1.6.7 Students will communicate ideas to justify positions, persuade others, and responsibly challenge existing procedures, policies and opinions;
- 1.6.8 Students will work toward agreements by resolving divergent interests and opinions;
- 1.6.9 Students will work effectively with women and men from all backgrounds; and understand the concepts of prejudice and bias, and the effect each has on interpersonal relations.